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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The dinner was attended by Semenov, Otto Grotewohl, Bruno Baum, Friedrich Albert, Alfred Neumann, and 14 employees of the Soviet embassy. A total of about 100 persons attended. The dinner consisted of five main courses, two new Soviet technicolor films were shown, speeches were made by Semenov and Otto Grotewohl, and toasts were proposed. The dinner ended at 2 a.m.

2. In his speech, Semenov pointed out that the main danger in the situation after 17 June was the wavering attitude of the masses. The workers who want to be proletarians and at the same time bourgeois represent a dangerous and unreliable element. This situation requires ideological strength and clearness. Semenov said that it looked as if an enormous number of moles were at work to undermine the socialist reconstruction work in East Germany. However, if energetically fought, these moles did not represent a serious threat. The danger should be fought jointly by the Soviets and the East German leadership. Semenov also stated that there was a danger of neglecting minor things in favor of large construction projects. Thus for instance he remarked that he did not find one single bench in the vicinity of the Mueggelsee Tower. Such conditions led people to think that luxury projects would be executed for propaganda reasons while the needs of the population were being neglected. In this respect he also reported that the streets of East Berlin looked very untidy compared with those in West Berlin. Efforts should be made to prevent a new 17 June not by brutal power but by conviction. It is a sign of incompetence when an agitator declares that a given situation could not be handled by him but required the employment of state security organs. "We must convince but not liquidate. Only obstinate enemies of the regime should be liquidated."

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